(a) The Pay Scales of music teachers in Kendriya Vidyalayas and Schools under Delhi Administration are as under:—

Kendriya Vidyalaya:

Rs. 1200-30-1560-EB-40-2040 (for teching music as co-curricular activity up to class VII).

Delhi Administration:—

(i) Rs. 1400-40-1600-50-2300-EB-60-2600 (for Music Teachers teaching in Secondary Classes).

(ii) Rs. 1640-60-2600-EB-75-2900 (for Music Teachers teaching in senior Secondary Classes).

(b) All India Kendriya Vidyalaya Teachers' Association has demanded special grade for Music Teachers.

(c) and (d) Since Music is taught as a co-curricular activity in the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan it has not been considered necessary by the Kendriya Vidayalaya Sangathan to appoint Music Teachers in a higher scale of pay.

High Airfare in India

2670. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) in what manner the airfares in Air India compare with those in other advanced countries, in terms of per km journey;

(b) what are the reasons for high airfares in the country; and

(c) whether other countries, where the air-travel is cheaper, are subsidising the losses of airlines; and if not, what are the reasons for their low fares?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) Based on a sample study the fares as expressed in rate per km from many points in Europe, U.S.A., Japan, Australia to India are generally higher than the corresponding fares ex-India Similafly the fares between many city pairs abroad, are generally higher than the corresponding fares to such cities ex-India.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Percentage of literate of total population

2671. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present percentage of total population of literate people in the country;

(b) by when it is expected to have over 80 per cent population, having basic reading and writing knowledge;

(c) what are the details of programmes undertaken by Government to increase literacy rate in the country; and

(d) whether the performance of these programmes is as per the schedules or they are lagging behind and in what manner it is proposed to achieve the targeted results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) The literacy rate in the country as per the 1981 census, is 36.23%. The increase in literacy rate will be known only through the census operations which are due to take place in 1990-91.

(b) In view of the Policy postulates of National Policy on Education—1986 and Strategies of Programme of Action that all children who attain the age of about 11 years by 1990 will have had five years of schooling or its equivalent through the non-formal stream and that by 1995, all children will be provided free and compulsory education upto 14 years of age and that the whole Nation must pledge itself to the eradication of illiteracy, particularly in the 15—35 age-group, large and systematic Programme of